



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

September 2015 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

October 9: Antenna program TBA

Highlights from the September Meeting:

Hilltop Contest will be September 26. Bob Burns and Tony Stokes will be coordinating this and the rules are on the website as well as on the entrance table. Bob stated that the competition last year was very close and would like to see that again this year. There are a couple of entrants already. To register, email Bob Burns with your location and the bands you will be operating on.

Jim Rinehart presented the club with the 2nd place award for INQP.

Mark Burke presented the ARRL Elmer award to Jay Kraus, W9TC, and Steve Wendt, KB9RDS.

2016 is Indiana's 200th year. Our Section Manager has a staff member working on different things. Mark Musick, WB9CIF, spoke about the INQP involvement. This year you can make contact with the original 15 counties for a certificate. The fee is \$5. Can also get a certificate if you contact those same 15 counties throughout the year (QSL cards required). All of the rules will be on the website (<http://hdxcc.org/inqp/>).

Christmas Dinner will be at Primo on December 11, 2015 at 6pm.

FCC dropped the cost of Vanity Call fees to free.

Tom Chance, K9XV, stated we scored 81,000 on Field Day.

Hank Wolfla, K9LZJ, Tom Chance, K9XV, and Gary Stouder, K9SG, have been working on getting a remote station on near 100% of the time. This will be for club use when W9IMS is not on the air.

Ron Cooper, WB9DKL, has pictures from last year's Christmas party on disc.

Jay Wright, KK9L, announced that Hendricks County will be having classes starting the last week of January on Wednesday nights from 7pm to 9pm.

New hams present were Skip Donnell, KD9EGK, Nathan Webster, KD9DEB

Our speaker was David Spoelstra, N9KT, about EECT222: Introduction to Microcontrollers.

There were 44 in attendance at the meeting.

[Thanks to Rhonda Curtis, WS9H, for notes from the meeting.]

Ham Radio News:

HILLTOP OPERATING EVENT IS SEPTEMBER 26

From the Hilltop Operating Event Coordinators, Bob Burns, W9BU, and Tony Stokes, KU9V:

The 2015 Indianapolis Radio Club Hilltop Operating Event is coming up on September 26, 2015.

The Hilltop is an opportunity for amateur radio operators, primarily in Central Indiana, to contact as many stations as possible from hilltop locations using temporary stations. It's a mini-Field Day with an emphasis on Central Indiana.

The Hilltop rules have been constructed to make it fair for small and large stations alike. Whether you have the radios and antennas to compete on all the available bands and modes or just want to limit your operation to a few bands/modes, you will find yourself competing with similar stations. And, the bands and modes have been chosen so that all it takes to participate is a Technician-class license.

But, wait, Indiana doesn't have hills. Well, yes, Indiana doesn't have hills like Colorado, but there are several hilltop locations within an hour or two drive from Indianapolis that you could operate from. In past Hilltop events, stations have operated from Weed Patch Hill in Brown County State Park, Crown Hill in Crown Hill Cemetery, and that big pile of rock you can see from I-465 on the south side of Indianapolis. Though, keep in mind

that if you are operating from private property, you should get permission from the property owner.

You can find the complete rules on the Indianapolis Radio Club web site at:

<http://indyradioclub.org/irchilltop.html>

Don't forget that you need to register your hilltop station before the event. Registration instructions are in the rules.

We hope to hear you on the air during the event!

VANITY CALLSIGN FEE IS A THING OF THE PAST

According to the best-available information from FCC sources, the first day that applicants will be able to file a vanity application without having to pay a fee is today, Thursday, September 3. (However, you won't actually be able to apply for that vanity callsign until the ULS comes back on line. See below.) In deciding earlier this year to drop the regulatory fee components for Amateur Radio vanity call signs and General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) applications, the FCC said it was doing so to save money and personnel resources. The Commission asserted that it costs more of both to process the regulatory fees and issue refunds than the amount of the regulatory fee payment.

"Our costs have increased over time, and now that the costs exceed the amount of the regulatory fee, the increased relative administrative cost supports eliminating this regulatory fee category," the FCC said in its Report and Order, which appeared on July 21 in The Federal Register. "Once [it's] eliminated, these licensees will no longer be financially burdened with such payments, and the Commission will no longer incur these administrative costs that exceed the fee payments."

INDIANAPOLIS RADIO CLUB VE TESTING SCHEDULE

(All sessions start at 12:00 noon)

October 10, 2015 - Salvation Army EDS Training Facility, 4020 Georgetown Rd., Indianapolis, IN
Contact: James K. Rinehart, (317) 495-1933, Email: k9ru@arri.net

November 14, 2015 - Integrated Public Safety Commission, 8468 E 21st, Indianapolis, IN
Contact: Rhonda S. Curtis, (317) 363-7457, Email: ws9h@arri.net

December 12, 2015 - Salvation Army EDS Training Facility, 4020 Georgetown Rd., Indianapolis, IN
Contact: James K. Rinehart, (317) 495-1933, Email: k9ru@arri.net

HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE

I have a new 3 500 tube that I would like to sell. I paid \$190 for it and I would be pleased to receive \$115 for it. I also have an unused MFJ Artificial Ground. I would like to receive around \$80 for the unit. (Prices reduced). Thanks, David Wilhelmus, WA9OUX

Contact : wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com
Phone: 317 926-2358

POPE'S US VISIT TO HAVE SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

Several special event call signs will be in use for Pope Francis' visit to the US. The Pope will be in the US from 22 through 27 September, 2015. Call signs scheduled to be in use are K3P, N4P, K2P, W3FRC/WMF, W3P, and WM3PEN. Special commemorative QSL cards will be available. Go to <http://www.silverfishdevelopment.com/papalEvent/> for more information.

FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at kj9b@arrl.net

Signals from the Past:

From the September, 1976 *Amachewer*:

NEW RADIO CLUB: Art Schultz W9BR, presented a program on antennas at the August 4th meeting of the Hamilton County Radio Club at Carmel, Ind. This is a recently organized club, according to club Pres. Edward E. Parr. The club has about 50 members meeting once a month in various members homes. Ed asks for help especially in the program areas....

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- October 3: Hoosier Hills Hamfest More info at <http://www.w9qyq.org/hamfest/>
- November 14: Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo More information at <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com/>

2015 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – EMAIL n9kt@arrl.net
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL dmiller@ivytech.edu
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL kj9b@arrl.net
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL ws9h.indy@gmail.com
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL k9xv@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL k9ru@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL g-17sk7.2@outlook.com
- Dir. at large: Bob Osterhous - ..EMAIL rosterhous@iquest.net
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL don9doo@indy.rr.com